

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 6, 8, 10-13, and 15-24 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 2, 6, 10-13, and 23 stand rejected and claim 24 is objected to. Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the indication of allowance of claims 8, 15-22, and 24, and the indication of allowable subject matter in claim 24. By this Amendment, claims 1, 12, and 24 have been amended. The amendments made to the claims have been made for cosmetic reasons to improve the form thereof. In light of the amendments and remarks set forth below, Applicants respectfully submit that each of the pending claims is in immediate condition for allowance.

Paragraph 1 of the Office Action objects to the disclosure. Applicants have amended the specification in view of the Examiner's comments. Therefore, Applicants respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

Paragraph 2 of the Office Action objects to claim 24 for various informalities. Claim 24 has been amended in accordance with the Examiner's instructions. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection.

Claims 1, 2, 6, 10, 11-13, and 23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Applicants have amended claims 1 and 12 in accordance with the Office Action. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Applicants have responded to all of the rejections and objections recited in the Office Action. Reconsideration and a Notice of Allowance for all of the pending claims are therefore respectfully requested.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is

Application No. 10/780,751

Docket No.: A8319.0034/P034

respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue.

If the Examiner believes an interview would be of assistance, the Examiner is welcome to contact the undersigned at the number listed below.

Dated: March 29, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By

Ian R. Blum

Registration No.: 42,336

Mark J. Thronson

Registration No.: 33,082

DICKSTEIN SHAPIRO MORIN & OSHINSKY
LLP

1177 Avenue of the Americas

New York, New York 10036-2714

(212) 835-1400

Attorney for Applicants

IRB/mgs